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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Cuba: draft resolution

Respect for the universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/

Stressing that, as stated in the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development, held at Cairo from 5-13 September 1994, 2/ family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration, and that financial remittances by documented migrants to their countries of origin often constitute a very important source of foreign exchange and are instrumental in improving the well-being of relatives left behind,

1. Calls upon all States to ensure the universally recognized freedom of travel to all foreign nationals legally residing in their territory;

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ A/CONF.171/13, chap. I, resolution I.

2. Reaffirms that all Governments, particularly those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its integration into their national legislation in order to ensure the protection of the unity of the families of documented migrants;

3. Calls upon all States to allow the free flow of financial remittances by foreign nationals residing in their territory to their relatives in the country of origin;

4. Also calls upon all States to discourage and reverse legislation that adversely affects the freedom of migrants to travel, family reunification and the transfer of financial remittances;

5. Requests the Commission on Human Rights to consider this issue on its fifty-first session and, through the Economic and Social Council, to present recommendations to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.